

Application No. 10/580052
Response to the Office Action dated October 6, 2008

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the following remarks.

Applicants respectfully request that the Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 04-126790 reference (Takahara et al.), which is included in PAIR and provided with the Office Action but is not cited in the Office Action, be listed on Form 892.

Claim 1 has been amended to include limitations as supported by formula (IV) 1,3,5-tris (N-4'-methyl-4-biphenyl)-N-(p-tolyl)amino) benzene in the specification at page 6, line 27 – page 7, line 5). Claims 2-6 have been amended editorially.

Claim 6 has been objected to because of informalities. Claim 6 has been amended editorially to remove the informalities. Thus, this objection is moot and should be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 4, and 5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Suzuki et al. (Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 11-176572). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants note that Mr. Suzuki is the first inventor listed in the reference. Claim 1 requires that "n" of at least one of the groups A and B in formula (II) is 1, 2, or 3. Suzuki does not disclose such compounds. Also, in view of the differing properties between the present claims and those of the reference, discussed below, Suzuki does not subject the present compounds. Accordingly, this rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 6 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suzuki et al. (Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 11-176572). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

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Claim 6 is distinguished from Suzuki for at least the same reasons as discussed for claim 1 above.

In addition, Suzuki discloses a tris (arylamino) benzene compound 35 (see formula (29) at para. [0072]) to be used for an organic electroluminescence element and the organic electroluminescence element having a hole transporting layer (see para. [0087]). However, as shown in the Declaration of Mr. Akashi attached hereto, the organo-electronic functional material of 1,3,5-tris (N-(4'-methyl-4-biphenyl)-N-(p-tolyl) amino) benzene (p-MBTAB), which is an example of claim 1 (see formula (IV) at page 6, line 27 – page 7, line 5 and example 1 at page 11, lines 33 – page 12, line 10 of the specification), shows a much higher glass transition temperature (T_g) of 103.4 °C (see page 2, second para. of the Declaration) than that of the compound 35 of Suzuki N, N, N', N', N'', N''-hexakis-(4-methylphenyl)-1,3,5-triaminobenzene (p-MPTAB) of 67 °C (see page 3, second para. of the Declaration). Moreover, the organic electroluminescence element of claim 6 that includes the compound of claim 1 shows stable power efficiency of emission, current efficiency of luminance, and emission luminance and no significant increase of voltage applied across the cathode and anode of the element necessary to obtain a fixed current density of 25 mA/cm² after heating at 90 °C for six hours (see Figs. 1-4 of the Declaration, respectively, and (6) Results of page 5-6 of the Declaration). The organic electroluminescence element including p-MPTAB of the reference, however, shows significant decrease of the power efficiency of emission, current efficiency of luminance, and emission luminance, and significant increase of voltage necessary to obtain the fixed current density after the first heat treatment for one hour (see *id.*), and as shown in Fig. 4 of the Declaration, the applied voltage of the element including p-MPTAB continues to increase while the heat treatment is continued. Thus, the organic electroluminescence element including p-MBTAB of claim 6 provides significantly superior properties to those of the organic electroluminescence element including p-MPTAB of the reference (see *id.* and page 5, second para. of the Declaration). Accordingly, claim 6 is distinguished from Suzuki, and this rejection should be withdrawn.

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In view of the above, Applicants request reconsideration of the application in the form of a Notice of Allowance.



Dated: March 5, 2009

DPM/my/ad

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